

Title: Comments on "Proposal for Encoding Chinese Chess Symbol in the SMP" (WG2 N3910)

Date: November 5, 2010

To: JTC1/SC2/WG2, Chinese national body

From: INCITS/L2 (US national body)

Action: for consideration

This document is in response to JTC1/SC2/WG2 Resolution M57.28, which invites national bodies to provide feedback on document JTC1/SC2/WG2 N3910 "Proposal for Encoding Chinese Chess Symbols in the SMP of the UCS".

The US national body recommends the 22 Chinese Chess symbols be encoded in the Enclosed Ideographic Supplement block (1F200-1F2FF), first ensuring that none of the symbols is already included in the Enclosed CJK Letters and Months block (3200-32FF). For consistency with other encoded circled symbols, the circled ideographs should all be provided with compatibility decompositions, such as:

1F25Z CIRCLED IDEOGRAPH XXXX
= Chinese chess [name of piece]
≈ <circle> XXXX

If there are any characters that are already encoded in the 3200 block, a note in the proposal should be made so the entire set can be documented.

We do not believe the use of box-drawing characters to render a chessboard is appropriate. The box-drawing set was included for compatibility with older character sets that were used to create character cell graphics, and should not be extended as proposed for Chinese chess symbols.